



# THE HEALTH OF THE CITY OF TRURO 1961

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**Medical Officer of Health :**

V. E. WHITMAN, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

**City Public Health Inspector**

F. MARSH, M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst.P.C., D.P.A.



# CITY OF TRURO

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## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1961

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THE MAYOR OF TRURO (Councillor S. J. Sunley)

Chairman : Councillor R. J. Williams

Vice-Chairman : Councillor T. W. R. Christophers

Aldermen :

A. A. Behenna, J. B. Lodge, F. Richards

Councillors :

J. R. Behenna, E. H. Broad, E. A. Brown, J. A. A. Gauntlett,  
H. J. P. Teague, Dr. Mrs. M. Andrews.

### STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT :

Medical Officer of Health :

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Official Address—6, Lemon Street, Truro

Telephone No. Truro 2202

City Public Health Inspector :

F. Marsh, M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst.P.C., D.P.A.

Official Address—Municipal Buildings, Truro

Telephone No. Truro 3475

Additional Public Health Inspector :

H. Chadderton, M.A.P.H.I.



Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my report on the Health and Sanitary condition of the City of Truro during 1961.

Except for the usual biennial epidemic of measles the year was a healthy one. There were slight increases in both the number of births and deaths but the corrected birth and death rates were well below the national average.

The year was marked by steady progress in the clearance and replacement of old unfit dwellings but this work absorbed so much of the available building capacity that the waiting list for houses grew from 341 families to 375. One fears that there will be a still greater increase when clearance for the much needed road widening schemes in the City is put in hand.

Mr. Marsh's report should be read in full but attention is particularly invited to his section on "Drainage and Sewerage".

I am glad to have once again the opportunity of acknowledging my appreciation of the help and consideration I have received from the Chairman and members of the Health Committee and my thanks to Mr. Marsh and his staff for their loyal cooperation.

I have the honour to be

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

V.E. WHITMAN

Medical Officer of Health

City of Truro

## GENERAL STATISTICS

(Figures in brackets refer to 1960)

|                                                                     |          |            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------|
| Area of City (acres) .. .. .                                        | 2,450    |            |
| Population (mid 1961) .. .. .                                       | 13,460   | (13,570)   |
| Number of inhabited houses .. .. .                                  | 4,207    | ( 4,292)   |
| Rateable value .. .. .                                              | £218,335 | (£215,534) |
| Product of penny rate .. .. .                                       | £870     | (£850)     |
| Number of houses built, or under construction<br>since 1945 .. .. . | 1,196    | (988)      |
| Number of families on waiting list for houses ..                    | 375      | (341)      |

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Live Births

|                                                      |                 |                 |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Males 85 (89)                                        | Females 97 (85) | Total 182 (174) |
| Registrar General's "Area Comparability Factor"      |                 | 0.99 (0.99)     |
| Birth rate, per 1,000 population - Truro             |                 | 13.4 (12.7)     |
| Birth rate, per 1,000 population - England and Wales |                 | 17.4 (17.1)     |

### Illegitimate live births

|                                       |               |             |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| Males 2 (4)                           | Females 7 (2) | Total 9 (6) |
| Per cent of total live births .. .. . |               | 4.9 (3.4)   |

### Still Births

|                                                               |               |             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| Males 1 (2)                                                   | Females 0 (1) | Total 1 (3) |
| Still birth rate, per 1,000 all births - Truro                |               | 5.5 (17.0)  |
| Still birth rate, per 1,000 all births - England<br>and Wales |               | 18.7 (19.7) |

## Deaths

|                                                     |         |         |         |       |           |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|-------|-----------|
| Males                                               | 76 (66) | Females | 88 (85) | Total | 164 (151) |
| Registrar General's "Area Comparability Factor"     |         |         |         | 0.90  | (0.92)    |
| Death rate per 1,000 population - Truro             |         |         |         | 11.0  | (11.0)    |
| Death rate per 1,000 population - England and Wales |         |         |         | 12.0  | (11.5)    |

## Deaths of Infants under 1 year

|                                                                 |       |         |       |       |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|-------|-------|--------|
| Males                                                           | 0 (3) | Females | 4 (1) | Total | 4 (4)  |
| Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births - Truro             |       |         |       | 22.0  | (23.0) |
| Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births - England and Wales |       |         |       | 21.4  | (21.7) |

## Neo-Natal Deaths (i.e. deaths occurring within 28 days of birth)

|                         |       |         |       |       |       |
|-------------------------|-------|---------|-------|-------|-------|
| Males                   | 0 (3) | Females | 4 (1) | Total | 4 (4) |
| Maternal Deaths .. .. . |       |         |       | Nil   |       |

## Birth, Death and Infant Mortality Rates

|      | <u>Birth Rate</u> | <u>Death Rate</u> | <u>Infant Mortality Rate</u> |
|------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| 1950 | 14.5              | 11.8              | 42.6                         |
| 1951 | 15.1              | 12.3              | 30.3                         |
| 1952 | 14.7              | 13.6              | 51.8                         |
| 1953 | 14.3              | 12.1              | 42.3                         |
| 1954 | 14.0              | 9.0               | 15.8                         |
| 1955 | 12.9              | 12.1              | 28.4                         |
| 1956 | 14.6              | 12.5              | 40.2                         |
| 1957 | 12.9              | 11.0              | 17.0                         |
| 1958 | 12.4              | 11.3              | 17.6                         |
| 1959 | 11.9              | 9.8               | 24.5                         |
| 1960 | 12.7              | 11.0              | 23.0                         |
| 1961 | 13.4              | 11.0              | 22.0                         |

# DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS

|               | M              | F              | Total            |
|---------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Under 1       | 0 (3)          | 4 (1)          | 4 (4)            |
| 1 - 4 years   | 0 (0)          | 0 (0)          | 0 (0)            |
| 5 - 14 years  | 0 (0)          | 0 (0)          | 0 (0)            |
| 15 - 24 years | 2 (0)          | 0 (0)          | 2 (0)            |
| 25 - 44 years | 3 (1)          | 1 (1)          | 4 (2)            |
| 45 - 64 years | 15 (12)        | 13 (13)        | 28 (25)          |
| 65 - 74 years | 25 (24)        | 18 (17)        | 43 (41)          |
| 75 +          | <u>31 (26)</u> | <u>52 (53)</u> | <u>83 (79)</u>   |
|               | <u>76 (66)</u> | <u>88 (85)</u> | <u>164 (141)</u> |

76.8% (79.5%) were of persons over 65 years of age.

# ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

|                                        | <u>1957</u> | <u>1958</u> | <u>1959</u> | <u>1960</u> | <u>1961</u> |
|----------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Tuberculosis respiratory .. ..         | 1           | 1           | 1           | 0           | 1           |
| Tuberculosis, other .. ..              | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0           |
| Syphilitic diseases .. ..              | 1           | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0           |
| Meningococcal infections .. ..         | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0           |
| Measles .. ..                          | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0           |
| Other infective and parasitic diseases | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0           | 2           |
| Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..         | 0           | 2           | 4           | 5           | 4           |
| Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus      | 9           | 3           | 5           | 2           | 6           |
| Malignant neoplasm, breast ..          | 4           | 4           | 2           | 2           | 0           |
| Malignant neoplasm, uterus ..          | 1           | 2           | 1           | 2           | 0           |

|                                              | <u>1957</u> | <u>1958</u> | <u>1959</u> | <u>1960</u> | <u>1961</u> |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Other malignant and lymphatic<br>neoplasms   | 13          | 15          | 11          | 20          | 14          |
| Leukaemia and aleukaemia                     | 1           | 3           | 0           | 0           | 0           |
| Diabetes .. .. .                             | 1           | 1           | 0           | 2           | 1           |
| Vascular lesions of nervous<br>system ..     | 30          | 21          | 33          | 26          | 25          |
| Coronary disease, angina .. ..               | 22          | 30          | 24          | 18          | 27          |
| Hypertension with heart disease              | 9           | 5           | 5           | 3           | 2           |
| Other heart disease .. .. .                  | 23          | 33          | 21          | 33          | 30          |
| Other circulatory disease .. ..              | 6           | 7           | 1           | 2           | 4           |
| Influenza .. .. .                            | 3           | 0           | 2           | 1           | 0           |
| Pneumonia .. .. .                            | 3           | 6           | 9           | 9           | 4           |
| Bronchitis .. .. .                           | 5           | 5           | 3           | 2           | 5           |
| Other diseases of respiratory<br>system ..   | 3           | 1           | 1           | 0           | 2           |
| Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..             | 1           | 0           | 2           | 1           | 0           |
| Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea           | 1           | 2           | 0           | 2           | 1           |
| Nephritis and nephrosis .. ..                | 1           | 3           | 3           | 0           | 2           |
| Hyperplasia of prostate .. ..                | 2           | 2           | 2           | 0           | 3           |
| Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion              | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0           |
| Congenital malformations .. ..               | 0           | 0           | 1           | 0           | 0           |
| Other defined and ill-defined<br>diseases .. | 16          | 15          | 12          | 18          | 22          |
| Motor vehicle accidents .. ..                | 1           | 2           | 0           | 1           | 1           |
| All other accidents .. .. .                  | 3           | 4           | 0           | 2           | 6           |
| Suicide .. .. .                              | 0           | 3           | 1           | 0           | 2           |
|                                              | <u>160</u>  | <u>170</u>  | <u>144</u>  | <u>151</u>  | <u>164</u>  |

# PERINATAL MORTALITY, 1961

|                                             | <u>Population</u><br><u>mid. 1961</u> | <u>Still</u><br><u>Births</u> | <u>Live</u><br><u>Births</u> | <u>Deaths</u><br><u>within</u><br><u>7 days</u> | <u>Perinatal</u><br><u>Mortality</u> |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Falmouth                                    | 15,020                                | 8                             | 265                          | 4                                               | 44.0                                 |
| Penryn                                      | 4,680                                 | 0                             | 72                           | 2                                               | 27.8                                 |
| Truro City                                  | 13,460                                | 1                             | 182                          | 4                                               | 27.3                                 |
| Truro Rural                                 | 26,920                                | 10                            | 393                          | 10                                              | 49.6                                 |
|                                             | 60,080                                | 19                            | 912                          | 20                                              | 42.3                                 |
| Cornwall: Perinatal Mortality 1961          |                                       |                               |                              |                                                 | 38.01                                |
| England and Wales: Perinatal Mortality 1961 |                                       |                               |                              |                                                 | 32.2                                 |

Despite an increase of 13 in the number of deaths the death rate was 11.0 per thousand of population as opposed to a national average of 12 per thousand.

Two of the four infant deaths were due to premature birth, one was a deformed twin and the fourth was due to maternal illness. One of the deaths in the 15 - 24 year group was due to chronic rheumatic heart disease, the other to disseminated sclerosis. Of the four deaths between the ages of 25 and 44 years two were due to cancer.

In the 45 - 64 year group there were 15 male deaths, 5 due to coronary disease, 5 to cancer of lung or bronchus and 4 to other cancerous conditions. Among the 13 female deaths in this group only one was due to cancer of the lung and none to coronary disease.

There is much concern in the country as a whole about the rising incidence of lung cancer but there is little evidence of this in Truro. In 1960 the death rate per million from this cause in the rural areas of England averaged 356 whereas the death rate over the past eight years in Truro was equivalent to 289. In the towns the rate was of course much higher and in the large conurbations it was still higher. Nevertheless it is fairly safe to say that without cigarette smoking some of the 5 who died of lung cancer before the age of 65 years in 1961 would still be alive and so too would some of the 5 who died of coronary disease.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICE

### 1. Clinics

Child Welfare - Attendances at the Infant Welfare Clinic averaged 35 per session. The average for 1960 was 35.

| <u>Dental</u>     | <u>Expectant and<br/>Nursing Mothers</u> | <u>Pre-School<br/>Children</u> | <u>School Children</u> |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| Inspected         | 22 (36)                                  | 65 (73)                        | 3105 (2832)            |
| Offered treatment | 22 (36)                                  | 46 (61)                        | 2017 ( 604)            |
| Persons treated   | 31 (52)                                  | 49 (58)                        | 971 (1104)             |
| Attendances       | 124 (228)                                | 68 (81)                        | 3260 (3628)            |

### 2. Ambulance Service

Owing to reorganisation and regrouping of ambulances separate figures of work done by the ambulances in Truro are not available. It is quite definite however that all calls made upon the service have received prompt and efficient attention.

### 3. Home Help Service

The establishment of Home Helps was 8 (8). Help was given in their own homes to 23 (22) maternity and 52 (48) other cases during the year.

### 4. After-Care Grants

No free grants of extra nourishment were made to tubercular patients during the year.

### 5. Laboratory Facilities

The Truro Public Health Laboratory examined and reported on 48 samples of ice cream and 111 samples of water during the year.

### 6. Water Supply

The Truro Water Company provided an ample supply of wholesome water to the City throughout the year. Samples were taken for bacteriological examination at frequent intervals, and all proved satisfactory.

7. HOME NURSING, MIDWIFERY AND HEALTH VISITING

|                                                   | <u>1961</u> | <u>1960</u> | <u>1959</u>             | <u>1958</u> | <u>1957</u> |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| General cases nursed                              | 335         | 328         | 358                     | 322         | 355         |
| General nursing visits                            | 12452       | 9841        | 11015                   | 9695        | 12679       |
| Midwifery cases                                   | 133         | 123         | 112                     | 109         | 125         |
| Midwifery visits                                  | 1657        | 2275        | 2009                    | 1958        | 2839        |
| Ante Natal visits                                 | 1361        | 1273        | 1452                    | 1082        | 1109        |
| Health visits to children<br>under 5 years of age | 3413        | 4263        | 4074                    | 4477        | 5163        |
| Nursing visits to<br>elderly people               | 8755        | 7635        | 8503                    | 7600        | 7866        |
| Health visits to<br>elderly people                | 626         | 576         | Not previously recorded |             |             |

Miss E.J. Jennings, Assistant County Nursing Officer reports:

Domiciliary Midwifery and general nursing

There has been an over all increase in the work and the temporary appointments made in 1960 have been more than justified.

The temporary midwife has been most co-operative and since passing the driving test she has been of even greater value.

The male nursing auxiliary paid 1,515 visits to heavy male cases. Some of the visits were to assist the district nurses but the majority he coped with alone.

Health Visiting

The work of the two health visitors amongst the older members of the community continues to increase.

Meals on Wheels

The Truro Old Peoples Welfare Committee went from strength to strength during the year. Their Meals on Wheels service, thanks to Mrs. Eddy and her many willing helpers, continued to operate smoothly. The average distribution was 24 good meals distributed twice weekly. The standard of the meals was high but the price charged to the

recipients was kept down to 1/6. As the waiting list for meals is never large it seems there is little need for extending this service.

### Chiropody Service

The Chiropody service got going in March 1961 with first 2 monthly sessions later increased to 3. Fortunately Mrs. Andrews was persuaded to undertake the chairmanship of the sub-committee in charge of this service. She has given a great deal of her time to this work and has personally provided transport to the clinic for all who were unable to get there unaided.

Mr. Marsh has given details in his report of the services provided by the Truro City Council in the 57 dwellings built especially for old people. I can only add that I and the Health Visitors greatly appreciate all that is being done and we look forward very much to the proposed extensions of the scheme.

### Ante Natal teaching and relaxation classes

These informal little classes set out to reduce to a minimum the natural apprehensions or fears of expectant mothers and replace them by knowledge and confidence. During the year 191 women pregnant for the first time and 40 women who had already had one baby came to the weekly sessions at St. George's Road Welfare Centre.

### PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

| <u>Age Group</u> | <u>Acute Pneumonia</u> |          | <u>Measles</u> |          | <u>Scarlet Fever</u> |          |
|------------------|------------------------|----------|----------------|----------|----------------------|----------|
|                  | <u>M</u>               | <u>F</u> | <u>M</u>       | <u>F</u> | <u>M</u>             | <u>F</u> |
| 0 - 1            | -                      | -        | 11             | 12       | -                    | -        |
| 1 - 2            | -                      | -        | 35             | 33       | -                    | -        |
| 3 - 4            | -                      | -        | 60             | 45       | -                    | -        |
| 5 - 9            | -                      | -        | 122            | 145      | -                    | 1        |
| 10 - 14          | -                      | -        | 9              | 8        | 1                    | -        |
| 15 - 24          | -                      | -        | 1              | 1        | -                    | -        |
| 25 - 44          | 1                      | -        | 1              | 4        | -                    | -        |
| 45 - 64          | 1                      | -        | -              | -        | -                    | -        |
| 65 +             | -                      | -        | -              | -        | -                    | -        |
|                  | 2                      | -        | 239            | 248      | 1                    | 1        |
| TOTAL            | 2                      |          | 487            |          | 2                    |          |

## Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

By the end of 1961 5,249 (4,256) persons had received at least 2 doses of poliomyelitis vaccine and of these 3,010 (2,732) have had three doses. Details are as follows:-

|         | <u>Children under 15</u> | <u>15 - 25</u> | <u>Expectant<br/>Mothers</u> | <u>Others</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---------|--------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 2 doses | 812                      | 383            | 146                          | 898           | 2239         |
| 3 doses | 2144                     | 375            | 69                           | 422           | 3010         |

## Diphtheria

There was no case of the disease during the year. 207 (179) children under 5 years, and 45 (23) between the ages of 5 years and 14 years, were given primary immunising doses. Of these 251 (196) received the triple antigen which also affords protection against whooping cough and tetanus. 77 (94) children already immunised were given booster doses.

It was estimated that on the 31st December, 1961 there were 809 (650) children in Truro between the ages of one and five years. Of these 600 (457) or 74.2% (70.3%) had been protected against diphtheria by immunisation.

## Smallpox

There were no smallpox cases in Truro in 1961 97 (110) children and 12 (9) persons over 15 years of age were vaccinated, and 14 (20) re-vaccinations were done.

## Tuberculosis

| <u>Age Group Years</u> | <u>New Cases</u> |          |                      |          | <u>Deaths</u>    |          |
|------------------------|------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|------------------|----------|
|                        | <u>Pulmonary</u> |          | <u>Non-Pulmonary</u> |          | <u>Pulmonary</u> |          |
|                        | <u>M</u>         | <u>F</u> | <u>M</u>             | <u>F</u> | <u>M</u>         | <u>F</u> |
| Under 5                | -                | -        | -                    | -        | -                | -        |
| 5 - 14                 | -                | -        | -                    | -        | -                | -        |
| 15 - 24                | 1                | 1        | -                    | -        | -                | -        |
| 25 - 44                | -                | 2        | -                    | -        | -                | -        |
| 45 - 64                | 2                | 3        | -                    | -        | -                | -        |
| 65 +                   | 1                | -        | -                    | -        | -                | 1        |
|                        | 4                | 6        | -                    | -        | -                | 1        |
|                        | 10               |          | -                    |          | 1                |          |

There were no deaths due to non-pulmonary tuberculosis during the year.

The number of tubercular patients on the register at the 31st December, 1961 was 109 (112) respiratory and 13 (13) non-respiratory making a total of 122 (125) cases. This gives an incidence of 9.1 (9.2) known cases per 1,000 of population.

By the end of 1961 the number of children who had been vaccinated against tuberculosis with B.C.G. had risen to 2908 (2669). Of these 466 (431) were contacts of known cases of the disease and 2442 (2238) were school leavers, the parents of whom had accepted the offer of this protective procedure.

#### Mass Radiography Survey

A Mass Radiography Unit was stationed in Truro on 6th and 7th November for the examination of schoolchildren. During that period a total of 530 schoolchildren were examined. 247 older persons were examined. 18 were school staff.

C I T Y   O F   T R U R O

CITY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT 1961

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report for 1961. It records the completion of the City Council's first five years programme of dealing with unfit houses and the opening of the second five years programme when closure and clearance action will go hand in hand with a drive for the reconditioning of houses which can be saved if owners are willing to spend sufficient money. Fifty three unfit houses were dealt with during the year.

The urgent necessity to have sewer outfalls taken out of the river remains and no major construction works were started or completed during the year although schemes of relaying the River Allen sewer and providing a storm water sewer in the Kenwyn Street/Chapel Hill area were taken as far as the tender stage. Details of the defects in the sewerage system are set out in the report.

The basic aims of houses fit to live in, food fit to eat, factories, shops and offices fit to work in and environmental conditions equal to the age in which we live are difficult to achieve. The problem of the substandard house will be with us for a very long time.

I appreciate the continued interest and support of the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee. Valued co-operation and encouragement was received from Dr. Whitman. I desire to acknowledge the readily given assistance of my own staff.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. MARSH

City Public Health Inspector.

## HOUSING

### (1) Clearance Areas and Individual Unfit Houses

At the close of the sixth year of the City Council's programme of dealing with unfit houses a total of two hundred and eighty seven houses had been dealt with. The first five year's clearance programme was completed in mid 1961.

#### Progress Report 1st April 1956 - 31st December 1961

##### Clearance Areas

|                                                             |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| No. of houses dealt with .. .. .                            | 112 |
| Houses purchased by agreement or already Corporate property | 105 |
| Houses still under negotiation to purchase .. .. .          | -   |
| Houses demolished .. .. .                                   | 94  |
| Houses awaiting demolition .. .. .                          | 18  |
| Families rehoused .. .. .                                   | 84  |
| Families awaiting rehousing .. .. .                         | 2   |
| Houses from which rehousing not necessary .. .. .           | 26  |

##### Individual Unfit Houses

|                                                             |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Number of houses dealt with .. .. .                         | 175 |
| Families rehoused .. .. .                                   | 114 |
| Families awaiting rehousing .. .. .                         | 27  |
| Houses from which rehousing not necessary .. .. .           | 34  |
| Houses purchased by agreement or already Corporate Property | 43  |
| Houses demolished .. .. .                                   | 59  |
| Closing Orders changed to Demolition Orders .. .. .         | 19  |

During the year Nos. 1,2 & 3 Pendeen Cottages, Moresk Road were declared to be a Clearance Area and purchased prior to the making of a Compulsory Purchase Order. Fifty houses in widely scattered groups were dealt with by Individual Unfit House action. Houses are still being found which are outside present clearance programmes and which should be included in the future programmes.

Difficulty was experienced throughout the year with demolition contractors who failed to complete satisfactorily the work under contract.

It would be in the Council's interests to purchase clearance areas as they are dealt with when such areas fall within parts of the town which are to be redeveloped.

## (2) Reconditioning of Houses.

The Council's policy of persuading owners to recondition and further improve their houses continued during the year. Ten houses were completely reconditioned, improved, and saved from clearance whilst work proceeded on a further eleven houses. Six hundred and sixty six improvements were effected to dwellinghouses during the year after action by your Inspectors.

The Public Works Committee agreed to the provision of bathrooms to eight houses at Waterloo which were built by the Council about fifty years ago.

## (3) Rehousing.

Forty five Council houses and seventy four houses built by private enterprise were completed during the year. At the end of 1961 forty four Council houses and flats and forty five private houses were under construction.

The Housing Committee approved a building programme for 1962 of twenty two houses at Malabar, thirty four old people's flats on sites at George Street, Trelander, and Malabar, and three old people's bedsitters at Cooks Row.

Thirty four families were rehoused from unfit houses, forty four families were rehoused from the general waiting lists and fifty nine families already in Council accommodation were transferred to better suited accommodation. The general waiting list increased to three hundred and seventy five applicants by the end of the year. Approximately one hundred would-be applicants were turned away because they could not show that they were living or working in the City or had had, at some time close associations with the City.

The agreement between the Housing and Public Health Committees that 40 per cent of all lettings of casual vacancies and new houses and flats becoming available be reserved for slum clearance purposes worked well during the year.

During the year the shortage of old people's accommodation was acute and the Committee accepted in principle the placing of elderly people, who were able and willing to go, in ground floor flats at Tregurra and Treliske Estates. As far as was possible the families with children were placed or transferred into houses and first floor flats were used for young married couples or couples without children.

Houses to let in the City area are almost non-existent and it would appear that only the City Council can make provision for housing,

in good conditions, those who are unable to purchase houses for themselves. The average income of fifty applicants for Council accommodation taken at random was £9.4.0. If it is assumed that only a fifth of the income should be used for rent then many of these applicants will have difficulty in paying the rent of a three bedroom house. The need for old people's accommodation still continues and not until the City Council has approximately two hundred dwellings of this type will the deficiency be met. When the 1962 building programme is completed the City Council will have 134 old people's dwellings.

There is a lack of suitable accommodation for single ladies under 60 years of age and this could be reasonably met by building a third storey to old people's two storey flats when future accommodation is planned.

The rehousing of families from the Moresk Road area prior to road widening operations by the County Council placed an unexpected burden on the House Lettings Committee at a time when accommodation for general needs families was short. A case could be made for a special allocation from the Ministry to meet the rehousing of the families to be displaced prior to the Tregolls Road widening scheme in late 1963 and 1964.

#### (4) Welfare Services to Old People's Accommodation

These services started in April with the appointment of three Wardens to the fifty seven dwellings covered by the scheme. Only one warden lives within the block of flats she looks after but the provision of telephones in Wardens' homes with extensions in specially built cubicles at the scattered blocks of dwellings brings all Wardens within easy reach. Gardens which either had been overgrown for a period of five years or were rough as the building contractor had left them were reduced to order and as many areas as possible were grassed. Thirty eight treatments were given under the chiropody service. One room was decorated and bath rails were provided where needed. Under a contract the windows of all dwellings are cleaned every two months. Arrangements were made for the provision of meals and laundry services for those who were sick or in need. Approximately £900 was spent in 1961/2 on these services. It is expected that in 1962/3 another sixty one dwellings for old people will come within the scheme at various times of the year and an expenditure of £1450 will be incurred.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

### (1) Refuse Collection

Collections are made weekly from 4207 dwellinghouses and from daily to weekly at 479 trade premises.

The five day working week has given rise to no major difficulties. The use of the third vehicle has been extended to meet the loss of working hours from 44 to 42 and to cope with the extending estates. At the end of the year a 12 - 16 cu.yd. narrow refuse vehicle was ordered for delivery at the end of 1962.

### (2) Refuse Disposal

The infilling of the flooded area at the rear of the new light-erage quay was completed by the end of September and proposals were made for the reclamation of more land near the river. The supply of cover to the tip has been more adequate and consequently tip fires and other nuisances have been less. Further filling over the mud flats in Calenick Creek could be usefully done to preserve the life of Newham tip.

### (3) Street Cleansing

The construction of new roads on developing estates again brought areas with no street cleansing service. Authority was given for the employment of an eighth street orderly in 1962. Continual street car parking during the summer months makes it very difficult to properly cleanse streets in the City centre.

### (4) Cesspool Emptying

Eight hundred and forty eight cesspools were emptied during the year. The machine was hired out for 550 hours and spent 79 $\frac{3}{4}$  hours on gully emptying and 50 $\frac{1}{2}$  hours on weed killing.

### (5) Public Conveniences

There are eight ladies, eight mens conveniences, one each for boys and girls and two urinals in the City area. They are cleansed by four full-time and five part-time attendants. The modernisation of Lemon Bridge Ladies Conveniences was completed in 1961. The pollution of the river from Worths Quay conveniences during the summer months still continues. It is recommended that when Pydar Street is redeveloped that a Public Convenience is built on one of the proposed Car Parks.

## Vermin Infestation Control

### (1) Rodents

During the year 486 visits were made by the rodent operative to 167 properties found to be infested by rats and mice. In addition 125 inspections were made by your inspectors at infested premises. The refuse tip at Newham was treated frequently. Sewer treatments were carried out in February - March and November - December when 60 manholes were treated each time.

Rodent and pest control continued at the premises of the Hospital Board in the City area and five treatments were given. Insecticidal Lacquers were particularly successful against pharoahs ants and cockroaches.

### (2) Insect Pests

Twenty seven flea, fly, ant and cockroach infestations were treated and assistance was given in the destruction of fifty two wasps nests.

## Drainage and Sewerage

157 inspections of drainage systems were made. In April 1957 the Council's Consulting Engineers made a report on Truro main drainage in which they stated:-

- (a) The existing sewers are adequate for present and future foreseeable developments and generally are well constructed and in good condition with certain exceptions.
- (b) One area is undrained - Malpas village.
- (c) Certain sewers discharge direct into the river and stream (Quay St. - St.Mary's St. area; St.Clements Hill; Fairmantle St; Worths Quay Public Conveniences).
- (d) Certain sewers admit large quantities of river water, stream water and tidal water and not all other sewers are watertight. (River Allen sewer; Main outfall sewer, Newham Rd; Sewer rear of Francis St.)
- (e) The existing sewage disposal works is adequate for present and foreseeable future requirements provided that the leakage into the sewers is substantially reduced.

The following work should receive the highest priority:-

- (1) Relaying sewer which at present lies in River Allen.
- (2) Sealing subsoil leaks on main outfall.
- (3) Construction of new foul sewers or other remedial works to sewers in High Cross, Boscawen Street and Quay Street now discharging into river.
- (4) Renewal of leaking sewer near Lemon Bridge.
- (5) Reconnection of St.Clements Hill sewer to main system.
- (6) Connection of Fairmantle Street sewer to main system.
- (7) Renewal of sewer at rear of Francis Street.
- (8) Sewering of Malpas village.
- (9) Repairs to storm water overflows.
- (10) Possible replacement of pumps at Sewage works dependent on effect of above works to reduce leakage to sewers.

It is expected that the Worths Quay Public Conveniences will disappear under a road widening scheme.

Much of the work to reduce leakage will be negatived if surface waters from classified roads still continue to flow into the foul sewers. There is an urgent need for storm water sewers on the five main roads into the City.

It is hoped that the hospital at St.Clements Vean will be connected to the sewer in the near future as the private sewage disposal plant which serves the hospital is inadequate.

During the remaking of Princes Street the foul sewer was renewed.

It is essential that sewers in the City centre are adequately cleansed of silt if river pollution caused by storm water overflows coming into operation too soon is to be prevented.

## FACTORIES

Thirty five inspections of the one hundred and twenty five factories included in the register were made. Twenty three defects were found and remedied.

### 1. INSPECTIONS

| Premises                                                                                                                   | No. on<br>Register | Number of<br>Inspections | Number of<br>Written<br>Notices | Number of<br>Occupiers<br>Prosecuted |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Factories in which<br>Sections 1,2,3,4 &<br>6 are to be en-<br>forced by Local<br>Authorities.                          | 15                 | 5                        | -                               | -                                    |
| 2. Factories not in-<br>cluded in (1) in<br>which Section 7 is<br>enforced by the<br>Local Authority                       | 100                | 15                       | 3                               | -                                    |
| 3. Other Premises in<br>which Section 7<br>is enforced by<br>the Local Authority<br>(excluding out-<br>workers' premises). | 10                 | 15                       | -                               | -                                    |
| TOTAL                                                                                                                      | 125                | 35                       | 3                               | -                                    |

## 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

| Particulars                                                                             | Number of cases in which defects were found |          |                         |                         | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                         | Found                                       | Remedied | Referred                |                         |                                                       |
|                                                                                         |                                             |          | To H.M. Inspec-<br>tor. | By H.M. Inspec-<br>tor. |                                                       |
| (1)                                                                                     | (2)                                         | (3)      | (4)                     | (5)                     | (6)                                                   |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1)                                                               | 8                                           | 8        | -                       | -                       | -                                                     |
| Overcrowding (S.2)                                                                      | -                                           | -        | -                       | -                       | -                                                     |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3)                                                          | -                                           | -        | -                       | -                       | -                                                     |
| Inadequate ventila-<br>tion (S.4)                                                       | -                                           | -        | -                       | -                       | -                                                     |
| Ineffective drainage<br>of floors (S.6)                                                 | -                                           | -        | -                       | -                       | -                                                     |
| Sanitary Conveniences<br>(S.7)                                                          |                                             |          |                         |                         |                                                       |
| (a) Insufficient                                                                        | 3                                           | 3        | -                       | -                       | -                                                     |
| (b) Unsuitable or<br>defective                                                          | 4                                           | 4        | -                       | 1                       | -                                                     |
| (c) Not s eparate<br>for sexes                                                          | -                                           | -        | -                       | -                       | -                                                     |
| Other offences<br>against the Act<br>(not including<br>offences relating<br>to Outwork) | 8                                           | 8        | 1                       | -                       | -                                                     |
| TOTAL                                                                                   | 23                                          | 23       | 1                       | 1                       | -                                                     |

## Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies

### (1) Milk

There are ten distributors of tuberculin tested milk and thirteen distributors of pasteurised milk. Three dairies are registered.

Sixty nine samples of milk were taken during the year with the following results:-

|                        | <u>Satisfactory</u> | <u>Unsatisfactory</u> |
|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Tuberculin Tested Milk | 32                  | 6                     |
| Pasteurised Milk       | 31                  | -                     |

### (2) Ice Cream

Sixty six premises are registered for the sale of ice cream. No ice cream is manufactured in the City. Fifty seven samples were taken and graded as follows:-

Grade I - 53      Grade II - 2      Grade III - 2

### (3) Other Foods

One thousand one hundred and sixty one certificates were issued for the voluntary surrender of 9,132 lbs. of unsound food.

### (4) Storage, Preparation and Distribution of Food

Seventy five premises are registered under Section 16 Food and Drugs Act 1955 - 12 for the preparation or manufacture of potted, pickled or preserved foods, 63 for the sale of ice cream. No court cases were taken on contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations but several warnings were issued.

There are one hundred and ninety six food premises in the City plus a minimum of a hundred bed and breakfast houses. Three hundred and eighteen inspections were made of food premises and fifty one improvements were obtained at those premises. The premises of all those who advertise food and accommodation in the Official Handbook of the City or through the Enquiry Bureau are inspected.

Food handling at the traditional Whitsun Fair has improved immensely since last year when a drive was made to stamp out many objectionable practices.

(5) Meat

Slaughtering is carried out at one private slaughterhouse and four slaughtermen are licensed. Four thousand four hundred and thirteen animals were killed and inspected - an increase of 78% over the figure for 1955. 2593 lbs. of diseased meat were condemned, 372 lbs. of this being affected by tuberculosis.

Alterations to the slaughterhouse to obtain compliance with the Slaughterhouse Hygiene Regulations and Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations started in June and continued through the year. New rooms for workmen and inspectors, a new hanging room and new lairages for pigs were constructed.

Three hundred and eight visits were made to the slaughterhouse.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN 1961

|                                                          | Cattle<br>excluding<br>Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep<br>and<br>Lambs | Pigs |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|------|
| No. killed                                               | 692                         | 2    | 103    | 2339                  | 1277 |
| No. inspected                                            | 692                         | 2    | 103    | 2339                  | 1277 |
| <hr/>                                                    |                             |      |        |                       |      |
| All diseases except<br>Tuberculosis:                     |                             |      |        |                       |      |
| Whole carcasses<br>condemned                             | -                           | -    | -      | 2                     | -    |
| Carcases of which<br>some part or organ<br>was condemned | 151                         | -    | -      | 64                    | 114  |
| <hr/>                                                    |                             |      |        |                       |      |
| Tuberculosis only:                                       |                             |      |        |                       |      |
| Whole carcasses<br>condemned                             | -                           | -    | -      | -                     | -    |
| Carcases of which<br>some part or<br>organ condemned     | 1                           | -    | -      | -                     | 31   |
| <hr/>                                                    |                             |      |        |                       |      |
| Cysticercosis                                            | -                           | -    | -      | -                     | -    |
| <hr/>                                                    |                             |      |        |                       |      |

(6) Number by Type of Food Premises

|                  |    |                      |    |
|------------------|----|----------------------|----|
| Grocers          | 48 | Wholesale warehouses | 4  |
| Mixed            | 16 | Wines and Spirits    | 4  |
| Confectioners    | 12 | Fried fish shops     | 7  |
| Sweets           | 11 | Wet fish shops       | 3  |
| Butchers         | 14 | Cafes and Snack Bars | 13 |
| School canteens  | 14 | Bakehouses           | 1  |
| Factory canteens | 2  | Licensed Premises    | 26 |
| Chemists         | 6  | Hotels               | 15 |

WATER SUPPLIES

The bacteriological quality of the water supplied by Truro Water Company was satisfactory. Fifty seven samples of public supplies were taken by your Inspectors and eighty by the Company. All were satisfactory.

The water is not plumbo-solvent and a PH of 8.0 is maintained by the addition of lime. The result of a chemical analysis of treated water from the Tregurra Pumping Station in October 1961 was satisfactory.

Bacteriological examination of one sample of raw water used for public supplies prior to treatment was unsatisfactory. Eighteen of the eighty samples taken by the Water Company were of water going into supply after treatment and all were satisfactory.

Almost all the houses in the City area are supplied from the public mains. The exceptions are isolated groups of houses on the outskirts of the City at Coosebean, Scarcewater, Three Corners, New Mills, and parts of Penweathers. Seven samples of private supplies were taken, two being satisfactory and five unsatisfactory. The scope of sampling of private supplies will be extended in 1962.

PUBLIC HEALTH

(1) Swimming Baths

There are no public swimming baths in the City area.

(2) Camp Sites

During the year a large site of 80 residential caravans and 6 individual residential caravans were licensed. The public sewer was extended from Kenwyn Church to the large site at Kenwyn Hill and the cesspools at the site were abolished. Housing Act action was taken against an old bus body on the large site and this was eventually demolished.

### (3) Sinks and Internal Water Supplies

During 1960-1 almost eight hundred houses were visited in connection with sinks, internal water supplies and flushing arrangements to closets. As a result one hundred and eleven sinks and internal water supplies were provided in those years. It is hoped that by the end of 1962 all houses outside the Clearance Programmes will have these very necessary facilities.

### (4) Byelaws - Barbers and Hairdressers

Late in the year the Public Health Committee decided to make byelaws in respect of the cleanliness of hairdressers and barbers premises and equipment. The views of the local branch of the National Federation of Hairdressers were sought as to the local application of the byelaws.

### (5) Licensing of Boiling Plants

During the year seven boiling plants were licensed under the Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order 1957.

### (6) Agriculture (Health, Safety and Welfare) Act 1956

A survey, under the above Act, of all the agricultural units in the City area (25) has been completed. The attention of the Public Health Committee was drawn to two cases where the sanitary accommodation was inadequate.

#### INSPECTIONS MADE

|                                   |     |                         |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-------------------------|-----|
| Dwellinghouses inspected          | 825 | Food Premises inspected | 318 |
| Council houses inspected          | 275 | Factories inspected     | 35  |
| Visits re rehousing               | 426 | Visits re nuisances     | 53  |
| Visits to Clearance Areas         | 75  | Cinemas etc. inspected  | 7   |
| Visits re Public Cleansing        | 163 | Caravan sites inspected | 12  |
| Public Conveniences inspected     | 37  | Hackney Carriages       |     |
|                                   |     | inspected               | 42  |
| Visits re drainage work           | 157 | Shops Act inspections   | 7   |
| Visits re rodent and pest control | 125 | Visits re sinks and     |     |
|                                   |     | internal water supplies | 491 |
| Visits re disinfection and        |     | Piggeries inspected     | 11  |
| disinfestation                    | 23  | Sanitary Accommodation  |     |
| Miscellaneous inspections         | 88  | on farms inspected      | 25  |

## IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED

### Housing

|                                            |    |                                               |     |
|--------------------------------------------|----|-----------------------------------------------|-----|
| Houses disinfected or<br>disinfested       | 11 | Rooms decorated                               | 133 |
| Roofs repaired                             | 55 | Dustbins provided                             | 29  |
| Gutters and fallpipes<br>repaired          | 20 | Closets provided or repaired                  | 30  |
| Doors and windows<br>repaired              | 70 | Choked drains cleared                         | 12  |
| Chimneys, firegrates<br>and flues repaired | 22 | Drains repaired or renewed                    | 10  |
| Dampness abated                            | 46 | Nuisances abated                              | 26  |
| Walls repaired                             | 48 | Sinks and internal water<br>supplies provided | 76  |
| Floors repaired                            | 14 | Houses demolished                             | 67  |
| Ceilings repaired or<br>renewed            | 19 | Other defects remedied                        | 26  |
|                                            |    | Houses connected to sewer                     | 11  |
|                                            |    | Food stores provided                          | 15  |
|                                            |    | Plaster repaired                              | 52  |

### Food Premises

|                                        |    |
|----------------------------------------|----|
| Wash basins or sinks<br>provided       | 7  |
| Hot water supply provided              | 4  |
| Walls, floors and<br>ceilings repaired | 9  |
| Rooms redecorated                      | 12 |
| Water closets provided<br>or repaired  | 2  |
| Drainage systems<br>provided           | 1  |
| Other defects remedied                 | 16 |

### Factories

|                        |    |
|------------------------|----|
| New closets provided   | 7  |
| Other defects remedied | 16 |

### Shops

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Defects remedied | 2 |
|------------------|---|

### Places of Entertainment

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Closets repaired | 6 |
|------------------|---|





